as per Bureau of Indian Standards specifications, shall be sold in notified States and Union Territories if the price of sourcing indigenous ethanol for supply of ethanol-blended petrol is comparable to the price of indigenous ethanol for alternative uses and the delivery price of ethanol at the location is comparable to the import parity price of petrol at that location and the indigenous ethanol industry is able to maintain the availability of ethanol for ethanol blended petrol at such prices.

ONGC's equity package to a Russian firm

1496. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC have offered a debt and equity package to Russian Oil firm Roseneft for the acquisition of the production facility Yugansk of Yukos; and

(b) if so, the amount involved to finance the offer and the response of Roseneft?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Measure to boost domestic production of crude oil

1497. SHRIMATI S G INDIRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had offered 20 oil and gas blocks for exploration and production;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering to boost domestic crude oil production by 50 per cent to 50 million tonnes in the coming 15 years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the fifth round of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-V), Government have invited bids for the exploration of oil and gas in 20 blocks: 12 onland, 2 shallow and 6 deep water blocks. NELP provides a level playing field for both private (including foreign and indian) companies as well as Public Sector Undertakings for the award of exploration acreages through Global Competitive Bidding.